

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A writing instrument comprising a body, a main reservoir containing ink and housed in said body, a writing head projecting from the front part of said body,
5 and a capillary connector for transferring ink from the main reservoir to the writing head, wherein said writing instrument also comprises an auxiliary reservoir containing an ink carrier liquid, and actuator means for releasing said liquid from the auxiliary reservoir so
10 that said liquid flows into the main reservoir and expels the ink towards the connector.
2. A writing instrument according to claim 1, wherein said carrier liquid contains the ink solvent, in
15 particular water in the case of a water-based ink.
3. A writing instrument according to claim 1, wherein said carrier liquid contains all or any of the components of the ink in the main reservoir, whereby the original
20 writing properties of the residual ink carried by the carrier liquid are preserved.
4. A writing instrument according to claim 3, of the water-based ink type, wherein the carrier liquid contains
25 glycol.
5. A writing instrument according to claim 3, of the dry-wipe ink type, wherein the carrier liquid contains a resin conferring its dry-wipe properties on the ink.
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6. A writing instrument according to claim 1, wherein the carrier liquid contains at least one surfactant.
7. A writing instrument according to claim 1, wherein the
35 quantity of carrier liquid is of the order of 20% to 40% of the quantity of ink contained in the main reservoir.

8. A writing instrument according to claim 1, wherein the main reservoir and the auxiliary reservoir are both fibrous material reservoirs and wherein, upon operation of the actuator means, the auxiliary reservoir is
5 displaced into contact with the main reservoir.

9. A writing instrument according to claim 8, wherein the main reservoir and the auxiliary reservoir are disposed in the body of the instrument in the same longitudinal
10 direction and wherein the front face of the auxiliary reservoir is pressed onto the rear face of the main reservoir when they are brought into contact.

10. A writing instrument according to claim 8, wherein
15 the capillarity of the auxiliary reservoir is lower than the capillarity of the main reservoir.

11. A writing instrument according to claim 10, wherein the fiber density of the auxiliary reservoir is from 80%
20 to 95% of the fiber density of the main reservoir.

12. A writing instrument according to claim 8, wherein the diameter of the main reservoir is greater than the diameter of the auxiliary reservoir.
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13. A writing instrument according to claim 1, wherein the auxiliary reservoir takes the form of a spongy mass impregnated with carrier liquid and wherein, upon operation of the actuator means, the spongy mass is
30 compressed, thereby releasing the liquid that it contains.

14. A writing instrument according to claim 1, wherein the auxiliary reservoir is a sachet filled with carrier
35 liquid and wherein the instrument comprises means for opening said sachet, said means being actuated to release the carrier liquid contained in the auxiliary reservoir

upon operation of the actuator means.

15. A writing instrument according to claim 14, wherein the opening means consist in at least one tapered lug adapted to pierce said sachet upon operation of the actuator means.

16. A writing instrument according to claim 1, wherein the auxiliary reservoir is housed in an actuator part that is a rear part mounted to slide relative to the main part of the body of the instrument containing the main reservoir, the capillary transfer means and the writing head.

17. A writing instrument according to claim 16, wherein the body of the instrument comprises means for retaining the actuator part adapted to retain it temporarily in an inactive position and, upon operation of said actuator part, to move it to an active position and to retain it inextricably in said active position.

18. A writing instrument according to claim 17, wherein the means for retaining the actuator part comprise:

- a) a substantially frustoconical annular shoulder on the outside periphery of the actuator part, and
- b) on the inside periphery of the main part of the body, facing said shoulder, four annular shoulders, of which a first shoulder and a fourth shoulder form definitive abutments and a second shoulder and a third shoulder, having a frustoconical shape complementary to that of the shoulder carried by the actuator part, form temporary abutments.

19. A writing instrument according to claim 17, wherein the actuator part undergoes longitudinal and rotational displacement by virtue of a helicoidal groove provided on the inside periphery of the main part, allowing the

actuator part to penetrate into the main part, said groove being provided with non-return means.

- 5 20. A writing instrument according to claim 1, wherein the actuator means consist in the portion of the body that contains the auxiliary reservoir and is made from a material that is deformable by compression or by torsion and whose deformation is permanent.